GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:259
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2003
COLLOQUIUM ON POPULATION POLICY
PRABODH PANDA

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had arranged a colloquium on Population Policy Development and Human Rights recently; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) Yes, Sir. A Colloquium on Population Policy was held on 9-10th January 2003.

(b) Major recommendations made at the colloquium were for ensuring that the State specific population policies are formulated within the conceptual framework of the National Population Policy, 2000; provide equal opportunity and environment where women are given the freedom of choice; demystify that understanding of reproductive rights at both the policy and programme implementation levels; make registration of marriage and births compulsory; stabilize population through inter-sector coordination and involvement of civil society within a rights perspective; ensure access to quality health care; ensure equitable allocation of respources etc. Further, a Declaration was also released wherein it was agreed to recognize population policies as a part of the overall development goals, adopt an approach which participatory and non-coercive giving due regard to individual decision making process and work together for empowerment of women while also providing them access to comprehensive health services etc.